## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No /EP 03/14982

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJ. IPC 7 H04R25/00 A61N1/36

ATTER A61F11/00

A61F11/04

A61F2/00

A61F2/18 1000

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 H04R A61F A61N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A wit.	US 5 772 575 A (LESINSKI S GEORGE ET AL) 30 June 1998 (1998-06-30) cited in the application column 4, line 44 -column 4, line 52; claim 1; figures 1,3	1-16
A	US 5 531 787 A (LESINSKI S GEORGE ET AL) 2 July 1996 (1996-07-02) column 3, line 49 -column 4, line 7; claims 1,16,19,20; figure 1	1-8,11
A	US 2002/035309 A1 (LEYSIEFFER HANS) 21 March 2002 (2002-03-21) page 3, paragraph 25 -page 4, paragraph 29; claims 5-8; figures 1,6,7	1-3,7, 9-12
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	Patent family members are listed in annex.
* Special categories of cited documents:	
'A' document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	•T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E" earlier document but published on or after the International filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or	"X" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)  'O' document referring to an oral disclosure, usc, exhibition or	"Y" document of panicular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the
other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed	document is combined with one or more other such docu- ments, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the an.  *A* document member of the same patent family
Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
18 May 2004	28/05/2004
Name and mailing address of the ISA	Authorized officer
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL = 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040. Tx. 31 651 epo nl, S' Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Merté, B

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